

ROPRO

10¢

of the **POPCORN** THEATRE

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VOL. 1, NO. 2

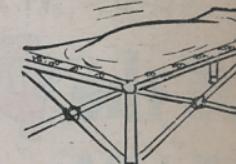
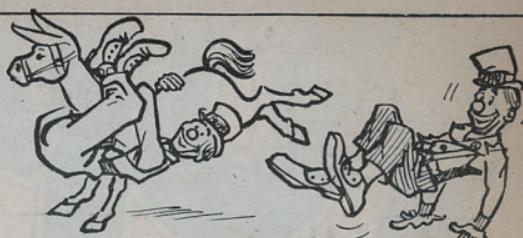
JUMP ON
QUICK, SNAPPY-
ONE MORE WILL
DO IT!



CHARLES
BIRCH

WEB COMIC UNIVERSE.COM



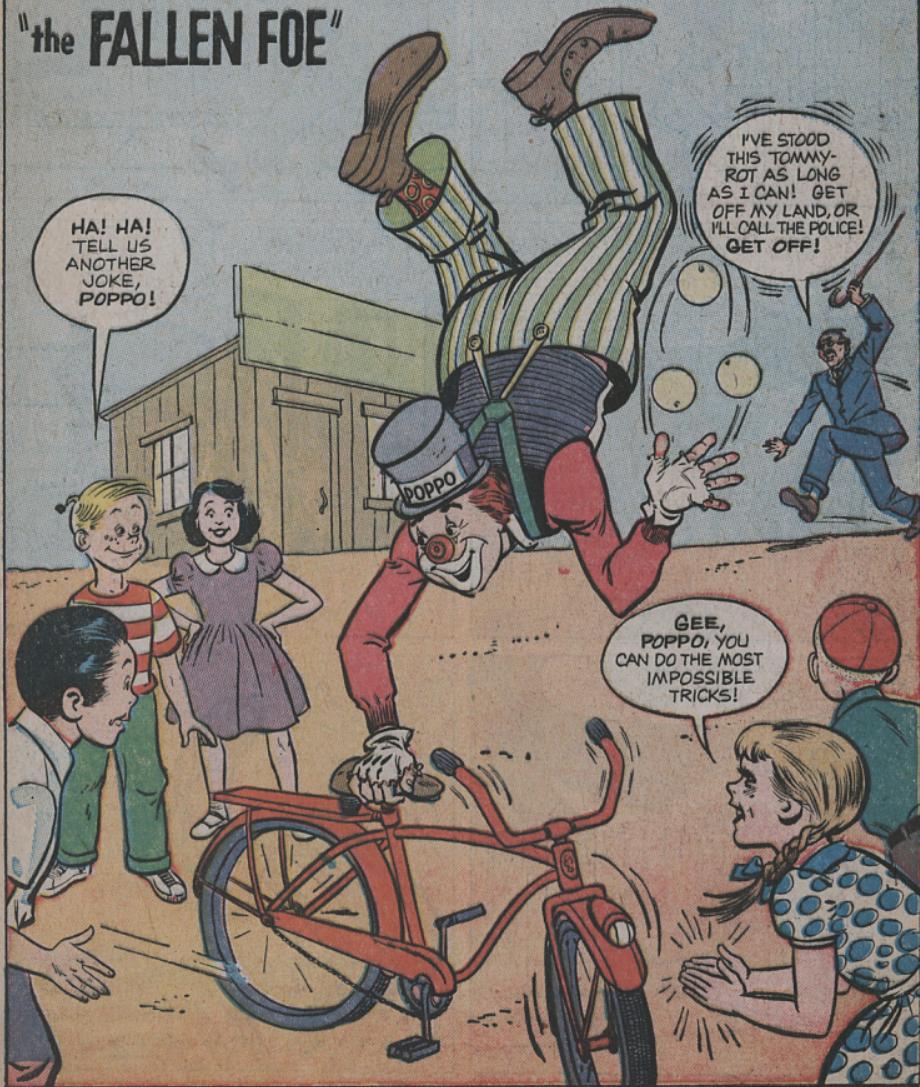


Popo

THE CLOWN — WHO "CAN'T HELP LIKING KIDS", HAS TRAVELED THE WORLD OVER PHOTOGRAPHING HIS ADVENTURES — THE GREAT ACTS THAT PLAYED ON THE SAME BILL — AND COLLECTING PRINTS OF THE CARTOONS AND COMEDIES THAT HE ENJOYED. BORN TO THE CIRCUS, AND THE JOY OF MAKING OTHERS LAUGH, HIDING HIS OWN SORROWS SO OTHERS MAY BE HAPPY, HE IS THE CLOWN OF ALL AGES — FOR ALL AGES. NOW HE HAS RETIRED FROM THE CIRCUS, BUT STILL FINDS HIS REWARDS IN LIFE MAKING OTHERS LAUGH.

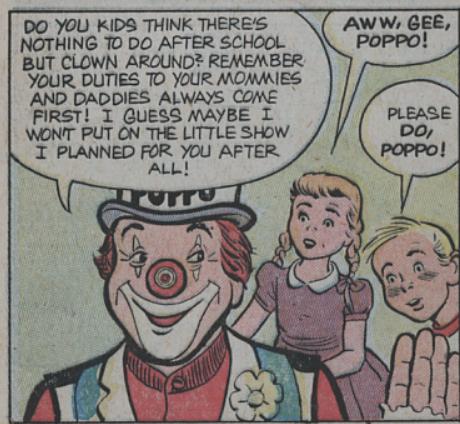
POPRO the CLOWN

"the FALLEN FOE"

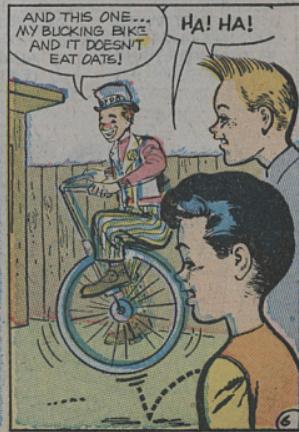


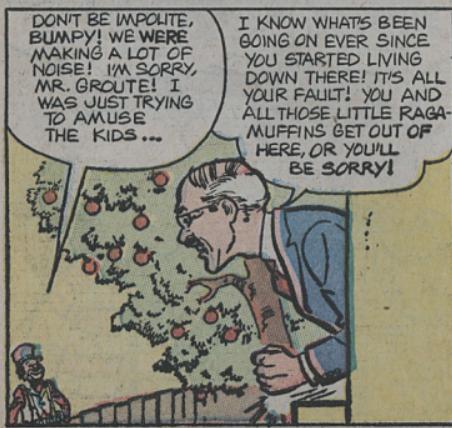
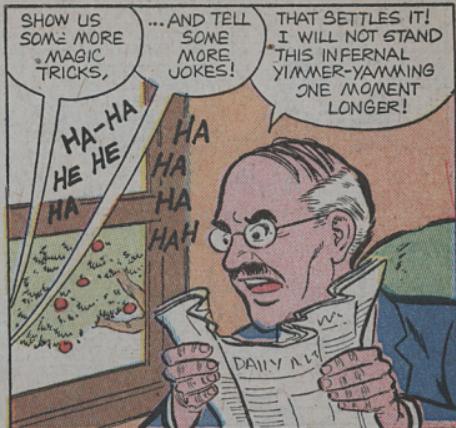
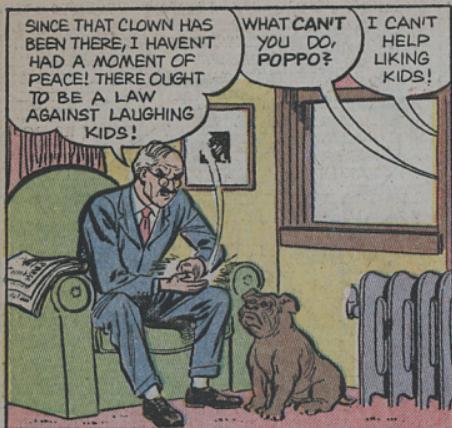




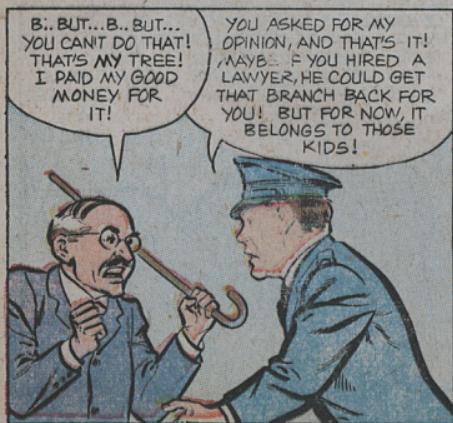
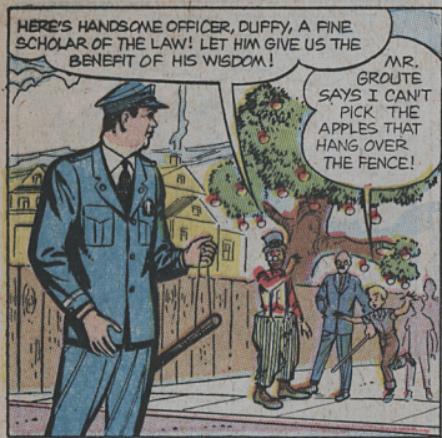




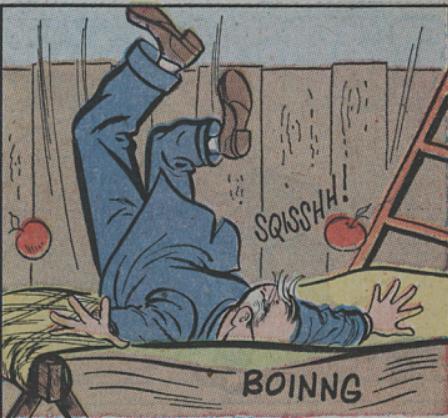




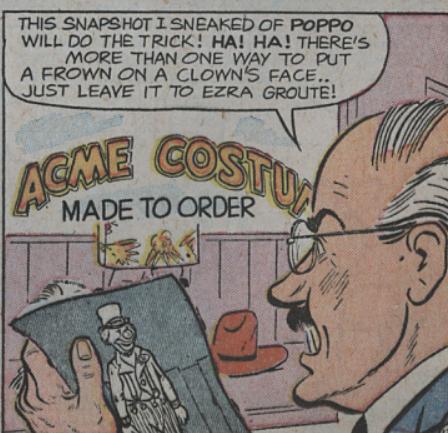






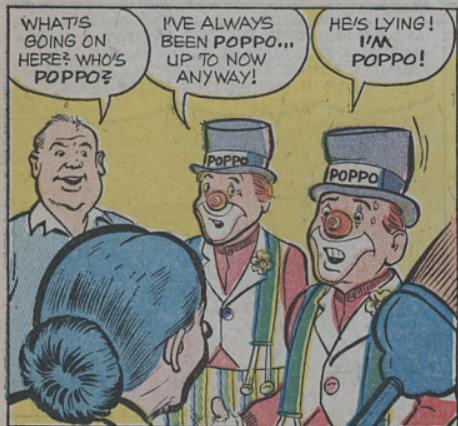


POPRO 'SOUR GROUTE'





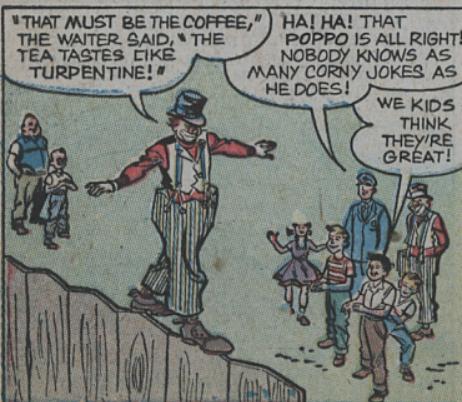


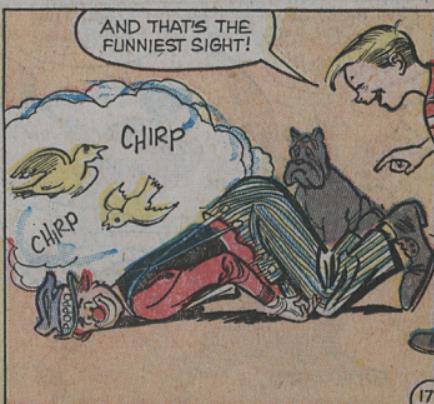


IT WAS THE FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL, AND THE TEACHER WAS ASKING FOR EVERYONE'S NAME! WHEN SHE GOT TO THE LITTLE BOY IN THE LAST ROW, HE SAID HIS NAME WAS WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE!

"MY," SHE SAYS, "THAT'S CERTAINLY A WELL-KNOWN NAME!"

"IT OUGHTA BE," HE SAYS, "I'VE BEEN LIVING IN THIS NEIGHBORHOOD FOR TEN YEARS!"







POPO

OUT BUT NOT DOWN"

HE SURE HAD ME FOOLED FOR A WHILE, THERE! SAY, HOW DID YOU LEARN ALL THOSE TRICKS, POPPO? YOU WERE JUST A CLOWN, WEREN'T YOU?

YES, BUT I LOVED THE CIRCUS SO MUCH THAT I LEARNED ALL THE ACTS!



I LEARNED MAGIC TRICKS, FIRE EATING, SWORDSWALLOWING, WEIGHT LIFTING, ACROBATICS...THE WORKS! THEY'RE EASY WHEN YOU KNOW HOW!

WHW! THAT'S THE KIND OF EDUCATION I'D LIKE TO GET! IT'S SURE BEATS ANYTHING I GET IN SCHOOL!

WELL, WE CAN'T ALL BE CLOWNS!



LATER...

OUCH! IT'S HARD TO COMB MY HAIR WITH ALL THESE LUMPS ON MY HEAD!

THERE'S ONLY ONE SURE WAY TO GET RID OF POPPO! IT'LL COST ME SOME MONEY, BUT IT'LL BE WORTH IT! I'LL GO SEE BUMPY'S FATHER!



HELLO, MR. GROUTE! DID YOU HAVE AN ACCIDENT?

ER...I TRIPPED DOWN THE STAIRS! I'D LIKE TO TALK TO YOU ABOUT THAT LOT YOU OWN NEXT TO MY HOUSE, MR. ALLEN! I WANT TO BUY IT! HOW MUCH DO YOU WANT FOR IT?



\$500. IT'S TOO SMALL TO BUILD ON, SO I'VE NEVER DONE ANYTHING WITH IT! SURE, I'D LET IT GO FOR THAT!

ALL RIGHT, IT'S A DEAL! I NEED...UH...A LITTLE MORE LAND, AND AS LONG AS YOU'RE NOT USING IT ANYWAY... HOW ABOUT THE DEED AND REGISTRATION?

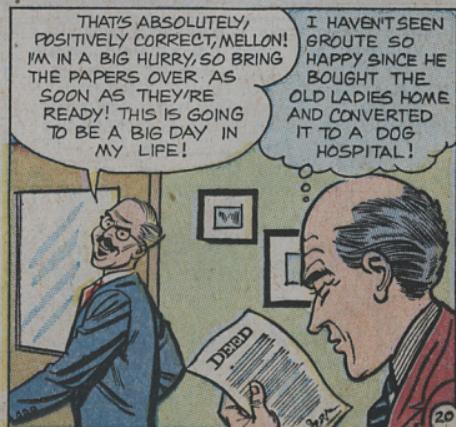
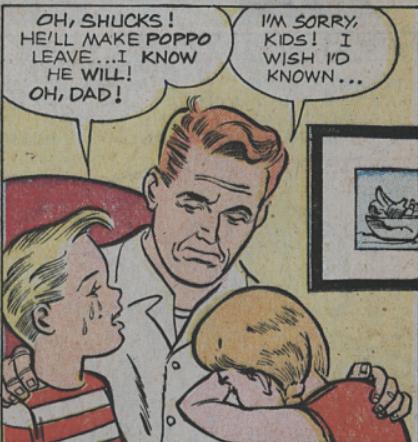


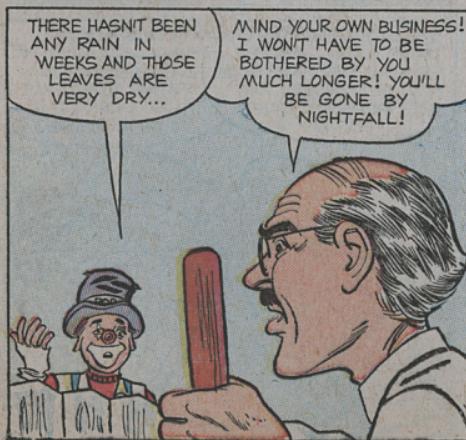
I'LL HAVE THE PAPERS DRAWN UP AT ONCE! GOOD LUCK WITH IT! I NEVER EXPECTED TO SELL THAT PROPERTY!

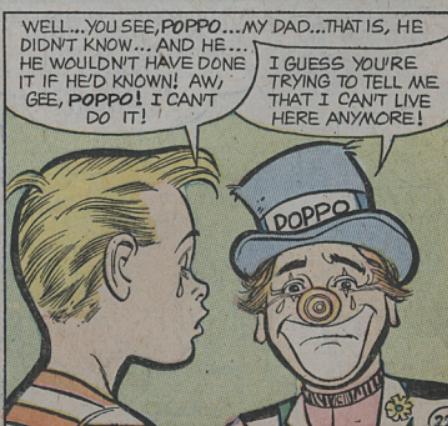
IT'S A PLEASURE TO DO BUSINESS WITH YOU, MR. ALLEN!

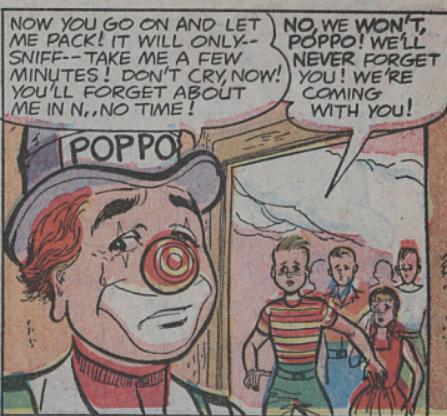
AND MY FIRST BUSINESS WILL BE KICKING POPPO OFF!







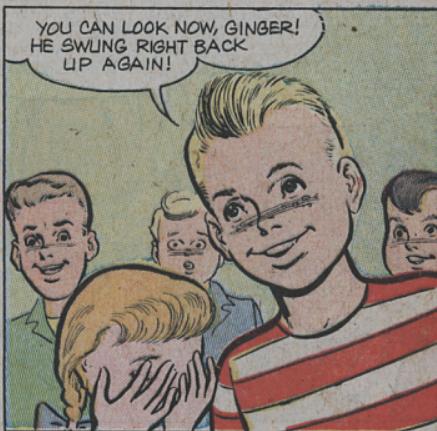
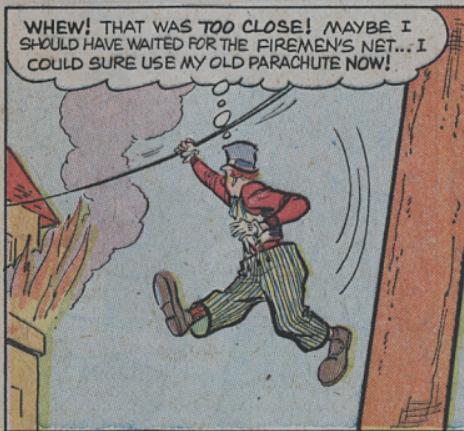
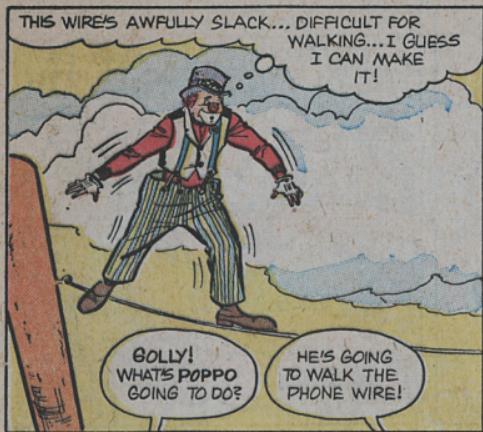


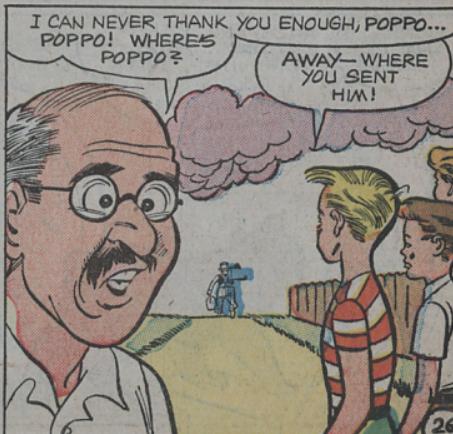
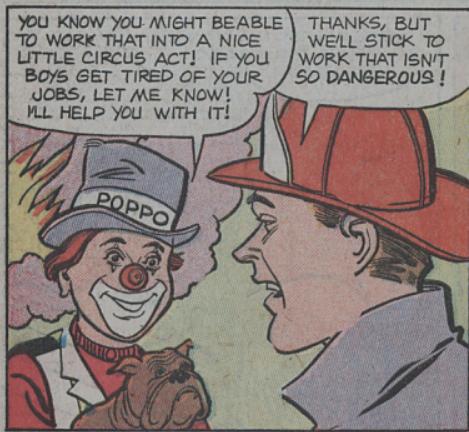


POPO

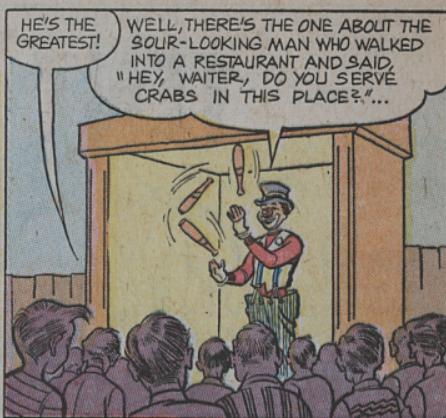
"DARING FEET"











TENT TALK

LITTLE BIG TOP

A resident of Little Rock, Arkansas, spent five years of his spare time making a miniature circus six feet long and three feet wide. He even made thousands of tiny folding seats for the main tent. The completed model contained 17 wagons, 13 parade floats, 30 performers, 21 pieces of aerial equipment, five tents, twenty flags, twenty-five animals and six huge banners for the midway.

A GOOD TURN

One of the greatest tightrope walkers of all time was Charles Blondin (1824-1897). His outstanding trick, perfected during an engagement at the Crystal Palace in London in 1861, was to turn somersaults on stilts on a rope 170 feet above the ground.

POLITICAL FUNNYMAN

The most famous circus clown in American history was Dan Rice (1822-1900). Besides being a friend of the eminent men of his time, Rice made and lost several fortunes, ran for Congress and was even considered as a Presidential candidate. During the Civil War, he was paid \$1,000 a week, or twice as much as Abraham Lincoln.

LOOK BEFORE YOU LEAP

A triple somersault from a springboard is one of the most dangerous circus tricks and one rarely performed successfully. It is believed that after the third revolution a person loses sense of direction and location and consequently is unable to land correctly. An American performer in the middle of the 19th century frequently did a double somersault over 18 horses, but after one attempt at the triple refused to try it again.



POPRO'S

TENTFUL of TRICKS

NUMBER
1

OKAY, KIDS! FIRST I'M GOING TO SHOW YOU HOW TO POUR SODA AND WATER INTO THE SAME GLASS, WITHOUT THEM GETTING MIXED UP TOGETHER!



FILL THE GLASS HALF FULL OF SODA. THEN PUT A SILK HANKERCHIEF OVER THE GLASS AND PRESS IT DOWN TO THE SURFACE OF THE SODA. GENTLY FILL THE GLASS WITH WATER, DRAW UP THE HANKERCHIEF, AND THE WATER WILL REMAIN UPON THE SODA, BUT WILL NOT MIX WITH IT.

HERE'S HOW TO DOUBLE YOUR MONEY! FILL A GLASS HALF FULL OF WATER AND DROP A COIN INTO IT. THEN PLACE A SAUCER ACROSS THE TOP OF THE GLASS. NOW TURN THEM UPSIDE DOWN SO THAT THE GLASS IS STANDING UPSIDE DOWN ON THE SAUCER...

LOOK DOWN INTO THE WATER IN THE GLASS AND YOU WILL SEE TWO COINS INSTEAD OF ONE!

AND NOW, AN UNCANNY EXPERIMENT IN SOUND! LET A FRIEND HOLD THE MOUTH OF A MILK BOTTLE ABOUT HALF AN INCH AWAY FROM HIS EAR. NOW BLOW HARD ACROSS THE TOP OF ANOTHER MILK BOTTLE UNTIL A STRONG CLEAR TONE IS PRODUCED. YOUR FRIEND WILL BE ABLE TO HEAR THE SAME TONE INSIDE HIS BOTTLE!



THE REFLECTION OF THE WATER IN THE HALF FILLED GLASS, AS WELL AS THE BENDING OF THE LIGHT RAYS ON THE SURFACE OF THE WATER, ACCOUNTS FOR THE ILLUSION OF THE EXTRA COIN.

THE SOUND VIBRATIONS SET UP BY PROPO HAVE STARTED A MOVEMENT OF AIR WHICH CAUSES IDENTICAL VIBRATIONS IN THE OTHER BOTTLE, BRINGING THE SAME TONE TO BUMPY'S EAR.

TENTFUL of TRICKS

NUMBER
2



ACTUALLY, POPPO BLOWS INTO THE SPACE BETWEEN THE EGG AND THE CUP. AS THIS COMPRESSED AIR MOVES UNDER THE EGG, IT IS FORCED UPWARDS. WITH PRACTICE, AND HARD BLOWING, IT IS POSSIBLE TO MAKE THE EGG JUMP OUT, AND INTO THE OTHER CUP.

HERE'S A GOOD WAY TO GUESS A FRIEND'S AGE, PROVIDED HE IS OVER TEN! ASK HIM TO ADD 9 TO HIS AGE. NOW HAVE HIM CROSS OFF THE FIRST DIGIT FROM THE RESULT, ADD IT TO THE REMAINING TWO DIGITS AND GIVE YOU THE ANSWER! YOU CAN GIVE HIM HIS EXACT AGE!

6 7
8
2 5 3

JUST ADD 9 TO THE ANSWER, AND YOU HAVE HIS CORRECT AGE.

POINT THE HOUR HAND IN THE DIRECTION OF THE SUN, THEN HALFWAY BETWEEN THE HOUR HAND AND 12 IS SOUTH. FROM THERE ON, YOU CAN ESTABLISH THE REST OF YOUR DIRECTIONS.



TENTFUL of TRICKS

HERE, KIDS, IS A MYSTIFYING CARD TRICK WITH WHICH YOU CAN BAFFLE ALL YOUR FRIENDS! TAKE A DECK OF CARDS AND HAVE A FRIEND PICK ONE WITHOUT SHOWING IT TO YOU! PLACE THE CARD ON THE BOTTOM OF THE DECK—THEN CUT THE CARDS! STARTING AT THE TOP, YOU CAN NOW GLANCE THROUGH THE DECK AND EASILY PICK OUT THE CARD HE CHOSE!

HERE'S HOW!

NOW A STUNT YOU CAN ALWAYS WIN AT—PROVIDED YOU KNOW HOW! PLACE 16 TOOTHPICKS ON THE TABLE NEXT TO EACH OTHER. THEN CHALLENGE A FRIEND TO TAKE TURNS WITH YOU IN PICKING UP 1, 2, OR 3 TOOTHPICKS AT A TIME FROM THE TABLE! YOUR FRIEND WILL ALWAYS GET LEFT WITH THE LAST TOOTHPICK!

HO! HO!

POPO HAS GLANCED AT THE BOTTOM CARD AND KNOWS WHAT IT IS. THE CARD SELECTED BY HIS FRIEND IS PLACED AT THE BOTTOM OF THE DECK, AND THUS **FOLLOWS** THE CARD WHICH POPPO HAS SEEN. AFTER CUTTING THE DECK, HE IS EASILY ABLE TO SELECT THE CHOSEN CARD.

LET'S TRY ANOTHER NUMBERS TRICK, KIDS! TAKE A NUMBER, ADD 7, DOUBLE IT AGAIN, DIVIDE BY 4 AND SUBTRACT 16. YOUR ANSWER IS THE SAME NUMBER YOU STARTED WITH!

IF YOU GO FIRST, TAKE 3 TOOTHPICKS, LEAVING 13. ON YOUR NEXT TURN, LEAVE 9, THEN 5 TOOTHPICKS, THEN 1. EVEN IF YOUR OPPONENT STARTS FIRST, YOU SHOULD STILL BE ABLE TO LEAVE GROUPS OF 13, 9 AND 5 FOR HIM TO DRAW FROM.

THE DOUBLING, DIVIDING, ADDING AND SUBTRACTING EQUAL OUT, AND YOU HAVE REALLY DONE NOTHING TO CHANGE THE ORIGINAL NUMBER.

KIDS!

See and hear me every week

ON T.V.

Tune in



"THE POPCORN THEATRE"

a full hour of fun with POPPO, cartoons,
comedies and adventure!

LOOK IN YOUR LOCAL PAPER FOR TIME AND STATION

IT TOOK JUST ONE
APPEARANCE FOR **POPO**

TO BECOME
AMERICA'S MOST
BELOVED FUNNYMAN!



POPO



READ
EVERY ISSUE.
RESERVE YOUR
COPY NOW,
OF THE ONLY FULL
SIZE FUNNYBOOK
APPEARING
WEEKLY!

HE CAN MAKE YOU LAUGH TILL YOUR SIDES ACHE,
YET AT THE NEXT SECOND DRAIN SYMPATHETIC
TEARS FROM YOUR EYES!

Hail Poulin 9/7/53
March 2, 1953

Book 8
PC 44

